

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EB/IFD/BP:TASCHLENKER:BT
APPROVED BY EB/IFD/BP:HARVEY J. WINTER
L/EB:SBENSON
EUR/CE:KAKRUZE
EUR/WE:NACHILLES
JUSTICE:JDAVIDOW

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R 051351Z AUG 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USBERLIN

UNCLAS STATE 194032

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, US, WG, UK

SUBJECT: ANTITRUST: INVESTIGATION OF JOINT VENTURE BY
COMPUTER MANUFACTURERS

1. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (DOJ) HAS INFORMED DEPARTMENT
THAT IT IS CONDUCTING AN INVESTIGATION INTO PROPOSED JOINT
VENTURE AMONG CONTROL DATA CORPORATION OF THE U.S., AND
NIXDORF COMPUTER AG OF WEST GERMANY AND PLESSEY COMPANY
AND INTERNATIONAL COMPUTERS LTD., BOTH OF THE UNITED
KINGDOM.

2. JOINT VENTURE CONTEMPLATES NEGOTIATION OF DELIVERY
SCHEDULES AND PURCHASING PRICES JOINTLY ON BEHALF OF
COMPETITORS WITH SUPPLIERS AND POTENTIAL SUPPLIERS OF
ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS. BECAUSE NEGOTIATIONS WOULD
REPLACE INDIVIDUAL NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN INDIVIDUAL COMPU-
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TER MANUFACTURERS AND THEIR SUPPLIERS OR POTENTIAL

SUPPLIERS, JOINT VENTURE WOULD HAVE EFFECT OF FORECLOSING COMPETITION AMONG PARTICIPANTS.

3. CONTROL DATA CORPORATION HAS BEEN REQUESTED TO SUBMIT VOLUNTARILY DOCUMENTS AND INFORMATION. IT IS EXPECTED THAT SIMILAR REQUESTS WILL BE SENT TO INVOLVED FOREIGN COMPANIES AFTER RECEIPT AND STUDY OF THE CONTROL DATA

SUBMISSIONS.

4. -N ACCORDANCE 1967 OECD RECOMMENDATION ON NOTIFICATION OF FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS OF ANTITRUST ACTIONS INVOLVING THEIR NATIONAL CORPORATIONS, ADDRESSEES ARE REQUESTED TO NOTIFY HOST GOVERNMENTS OF THE FOREGOING INFORMATION AS IT CONCERNS THESE GOVERNMENTS. HABIB

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Message Attributes

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